
SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTORS

OF THE

STATE ALMSHOUSE,

AT TEWKSBURY.

DECEMBER, 1855.

BOSTON:

WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1856.

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Council:—

In obedience to the requirements of the Act relating to paupers, having no settlement in this Commonwealth, the undersigned Inspectors of the State almshouse, Tewksbury, beg leave to submit their

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT:

The Institution has been continued the past year under the efficient superintendence of Isaac H. Meserve, Esq., without any material change in its internal arrangements or police. It has been a prime object to perform the labor of the farm and the work of the house, as far as possible, by the aid of its inmates, hiring no more help than has been found imperatively necessary to conduct the affairs of the establishment with economy, but, at the same time, with efficiency and success. When the farm became the property of the Commonwealth its soil was completely exhausted and entirely unproductive, and it will require a few years, at least, to bring it into a high state of cultivation. Nevertheless, the Inspectors flatter themselves that a very good beginning has been made. A very fair crop of most products, and a very large one of some have been obtained the past year. A great amount of labor, mostly pauper labor, has been expended in reclaiming unproductive land, removing stones and stumps, building wall, grading the grounds, laying drains, &c. For a more detailed statement of the products of the farm and their value, and the general out-door operations, we beg leave to refer you to the very full and satisfactory report of the superintendent, which is herewith ap-

pended, marked A, and made a part of this Report. To the same we refer for an accurate and specific statement of all the expenses incurred in conducting the establishment, together with the Superintendent's account current with the Commonwealth; for a statement, also, of admissions to the house—average number of its inmates—ages, cost of each per week, and, in general, for all such facts and statistics as are important to be known.

By a Resolve of the legislature, approved May 19, 1855, Twelve thousand dollars were appropriated to the State almshouse, for certain purposes of improvement. We beg leave to present a statement, somewhat in detail, of the expenditures under it. The first and most important object, and one to which we had the honor of calling your Excellency's attention, in our report of last year, was the building of a cookery, detached from the main edifice, and yet conveniently connected with it. The year's experience has demonstrated, most satisfactorily, the necessity and importance of the improvement, and we believe it will be found to contribute essentially to the healthfulness of the establishment, and to be a great safeguard against the most direful of calamities, fire. The work has been accomplished, and the building is already occupied, and is found to answer our most sanguine expectations. The new building is connected, by a covered passage way of 22 feet, with the east wing of the main structure. It is 65 feet long, and 43 feet wide, and comprises a kitchen 32 by 28 feet, and a bakery 32 by 25 feet, and ample store-room for each. In the basement are a drying room and laundry, the latter supplied by steam, which is also conducted into the cookery, and used for its general operations. The spacious attic is useful for storage. The building is of brick, and constructed in the most thorough and workmanlike manner, by Mr. Caleb Crosby, mason. The plan was furnished by the Superintendent from the suggestions of his long experience in such matters, and entirely approved by the Inspectors, and we believe, for convenience of arrangement it could not be surpassed. Much of the labor about the building, particularly the preparatory work, was performed by the inmates of the house, such as digging the cellar, laying its walls, procuring and screening sand, transporting building materials from the depot, &c.

The Institution in Tewksbury, being located in the most populous pauper district, a district comprising eight cities, and including Boston in the number, must of course be the most crowded with subjects. This number, always large, compared with that in the other establishments, is greatly increased in the winter season, and last winter we found it difficult to provide with suitable lodgings the numbers that were thrown upon us. Accordingly a part of the amount appropriated for our house has been expended, and we think judiciously, in enlarging our sleeping accommodations. The attics of both wings of the building, hitherto unfinished, have been made into dormitories that will comfortably admit two hundred persons. Twenty-one Luthern windows have been put in, and ample ventilation secured by means of eleven of Emerson's large-sized ventilators. The second and third stories also of the house have been greatly improved in their ventilation, and rendered much more comfortable and healthful abodes. The entire work has been faithfully executed under the direction of Mr. Stephen Carlton.

In a very few days after the opening of the house it was discovered that the supply of water was entirely inadequate to the wants of the establishment, and much was done, last year, by the way of digging wells to remedy the evil. Still, in the dry season we were obliged to bring water from a distance, a troublesome and expensive operation. With a portion of the special appropriation a never-failing reservoir well has been constructed, six hundred feet from the main building, and connected with it by two inch iron pipes, which it is believed will supply all the necessities of the establishment.

Other expenditures from the same appropriation will be shown by a reference to the Superintendent's account current. It will be observed, also, that of the appropriation there remains an unexpended balance of \$1,966.86. There remain, however, some outstanding bills, and some additional improvements are still needed in the cookery. The special appropriation will be nearly if not quite exhausted, but it is confidently anticipated not overrun.

The school connected with the Institution has, for several months, been under the care of Miss Mary Barber, assisted by Miss Mary S. Meserve. Both of the young ladies have been

indefatigable in their labors, and have merited and received the entire approval of the Inspectors. The school has been very variable in numbers, ranging from sixty to one hundred and twenty-five.

The Act, providing for the classification of the State paupers, has necessarily tended to keep the school in a fluctuating condition. Under this law, there were sent to Monson, on June 14th, one hundred and sixty children, and again, on August 24th, sixty, making two hundred and twenty transferred from this house to that.

Some of the practical and very serious inconveniences, in the working of the classification Act, are enumerated in the Superintendent's report, and it becomes a question of no small consequence, whether some modification of it, at least, may not be advantageously made, should it be considered expedient to still retain the Monson house, mainly as the receptacle for the pauper children. May it not be advisable to allow some degree of latitude, as to such children as have parents, who will probably soon call for them, and relieve the State, entirely, of the burden of their support? As the law now stands it is imperative, that *all* children, between the ages of five and fifteen, with the exception of idiots, shall be sent to Monson. With these few suggestions, we confidently rest the whole matter in the hands of those who only are competent to direct concerning it, with the undoubted assurance, that whatever the interests of the Commonwealth, and the permanent interest of these her charitable institutions require, will be done.

The hospital department has been continued under the watchful care of Jonathan Brown, M. D., who has devoted his entire time to its duties. His full report of the sanitary condition of the house, and of the sickness, births and deaths, is herewith appended, (marked B). It is but simple justice to this gentleman to say, that his unceasing attention to his official duties, and his kind and considerate care of the suffering and sick poor are deserving our special acknowledgments.

The Inspectors have not been inattentive to the moral and religious instruction of those under their care. The Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Burt, has acted the part of a faithful spiritual guide, and has exerted a salutary influence throughout the Institu-

tion. His report, also, is among the accompanying papers, (marked C).

In a review of the affairs of the Institution for the last year, we cannot conclude without renewing the expression of our entire confidence in the superintendence of Mr. Meserve, and his excellent lady, the matron. A constant vigilance has been exerted over all the interests of the establishment, without and within. Economy, order, cleanliness have reigned throughout.

It is due, also, to the subordinate officers and others, in the service of the house and the hospital, to say, that they have faithfully discharged their several duties, and to our entire satisfaction.

It might have been stated in place that one expenditure, that for clothing, falls proportionably heavier upon our institution than upon either of the others, inasmuch as so many have been transferred from this house soon after their admission, but not till they had been suitably clad.

ELISHA HUNTINGTON,
STEPHEN MANSUR,
J. B. FARMER,

Inspectors.

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, }
December 28, 1855. }

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of State Almshouse at Tewksbury : —

GENTLEMEN : — It becomes my duty to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending November 30, 1855.

Under the blessings of Divine Providence we have had no prevailing epidemic, and, considering the large number in the house during the year, it has been comparatively healthy.

It is made the duty of the Superintendent to provide all things necessary in carrying on the establishment, to examine all paupers on their admission to the house as to their legal settlement, and to record such facts in regard to them as are important to be preserved ; to see that they are suitably classified, placing the sick in the medical department, &c., and to furnish employment for all inmates capable of labor ; to see that the provisions furnished for the inmates are of good quality and in sufficient quantity.

The Assistant Superintendent is to act as Superintendent in the absence of the Superintendent, and to assist him in his various duties in the management of the institution.

This office, during the past year, has been filled by William Waterhouse, M. D., who has been faithful to his trust and given entire satisfaction to the Superintendent.

Jonathan Brown, M. D., has had charge of the medical department of the institution, assisted by James S. Hill, M. D.

They have always been very attentive to the poor and unfortunate inmates who have been placed under their charge, and their treatment to them has been entirely satisfactory.

Rev. Jacob Coggin was Chaplain at the commencement of the year, but on the 12th of December that good man died.

After the death of Mr. Coggin, Rev. J. M. Burtt was appointed Chaplain, and has very acceptably filled the office since.

We have, in conducting the various departments of the institution, a clerk, a man to superintend the cooking, also a man to take charge of the men and boys—a woman to look after the cleanliness of the Female Department; a seamstress, nurse, laundress, a woman in the Superintendent's family, and a watchman, all of whom have been faithful and taken an interest in their several departments.

Our school, consisting of about one hundred and fifty children under the charge of Mrs. E. Pillsbury, assisted by Miss Sarah C. Weymouth, was continued from the first of December, up to the fourteenth day of June, when, agreeably to an Act of the legislature, passed last winter, all the school children of the age of five years and upwards were transferred to the State institution at Monson.

Much credit is due Mrs. Pillsbury and Miss Weymouth for the interest they manifested in the children under their charge. After the removal of the children to Monson, a school was formed of the small children and placed under the care of Miss Mary Barber, who has satisfactorily performed the duties of teacher to the present time.

I believe the Act above referred to, classifying the inmates of the several almshouses and placing the children at Monson, was not the most judicious disposal of them. Many of those who enter this institution are transient, whose parents are sentenced to the House of Correction for a term of months. As soon as their term of imprisonment expires they come for their children, and are put to much trouble and expense in getting them from Monson. By having them all in one place it lessens the opportunities in procuring them good homes and relieving the State of their support. Would it not be better to have a building erected at each of the State almshouses capable of accommodating two hundred children,—the first story for a school room and the upper story for sleeping; the building to be near the main house, but disconnected—that all their work, cooking, washing, making, mending, &c., may be done by the inmates, while the children will be removed from all the bad influences of the adults, and under the charge of their teachers?

I believe that three separate houses for the children would be for the interest of the Commonwealth, and for the comfort and happiness of the children, besides having them located in dif-

ferent parts of the State, the opportunities for procuring them good homes would be very much increased.

The inmates have been mostly employed about the house-work, shops and farm.

Two men and twenty women have been constantly employed in the sewing room; three men and thirteen women in the laundry; three men and ten women in the dining-hall and cook-kitchen; two carpenters, one barber, two white-washers; at the barn and piggery, four; in the shoemaker's shop, twelve; various numbers at scrubbing, sweeping, and making beds; fifteen nurses and room-keepers. The old women and feeble women knit and take the care of children. Domestics of the Superintendent, three; four men in the bakery, and six men pumping water. Such other men as are able to perform labor are employed on the farm, and with the exception of three teamsters, who tend and drive their teams, have done all the work.

Much of the land has been improved by blasting and removing stone, from which thirty-three rods of substantial faced wall have been built, and the foundation laid and stone prepared for about thirty-five rods more, to be completed during the winter and coming spring.

A number of inmates have been employed about the new building erected the past summer. The roads have been improved by laying a stone foundation and gravel over. The inside yard has been paved, placing flagging stones for walks.

Six hundred loads of muck have been taken from the meadow and prepared for compost. About one thousand loads of manure and compost have been made ready for use in the spring.

PRODUCE RAISED ON THE FARM.

Rye, 76 bushels,	. . . .	\$1 50	\$114 00
Rye Straw, 4 tons,	. . . .	14 00	56 00
Sweet Corn, (in ear,) 100 bushels,	. . . .	50	50 00
Potatoes, 1,550 bushels,	. . . .	60	930 00
Turnips, 800 bushels,	. . . .	25	200 00
Cabbages, 10,000 heads,	. . . .	04	400 00
Carrots, 16 tons,	. . . .	10 00	160 00
Tomatoes, 60 bushels,	. . . .	50	30 00
Green Pease, 30 bushels,	. . . .	50	15 00

Beans, 15 bushels,	\$2 50	\$37 50
Squashes, 2 tons,	20 00	40 00
Other vegetables,	75 00
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		\$2,107 50

PRODUCE ON HAND.

Potatoes, 700 bushels,	\$0 60	\$420 00
Turnips, 900 bushels,	25	150 00
Cabbages, 6,000 heads,	4	240 00
Rye, 70 bushels,	1 50	105 00
Carrots, 6 tons,	10 00	60 00
Apples, 51 barrels,	2 00	102 00
Hay, 7 tons,	25 00	175 00
Onions, 21 barrels,	1 50	31 50
Flour, 35 barrels,	10 25	358 00
Pease, 3 bushels,		5 00
Corn, 35 bushels,	1 15	40 25
Pork, 8 barrels,	20 00	160 00
Beef, 95 barrels,	14 00	1,330 00
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\$3,177 50

West India Goods on hand, . . .	\$606 80
300 tons Coal, " \$7.00	2,100 00
Dry Goods,	1,652 95
Stock in Shoe Shop,	150 00
Wood,	700 00
Drugs and Medicines,	407 00
Stock and Hogs,	2,542 50
Farming Utensils, Ox Wagons, Carts,	
Buggy, Horse Wagon, Harness, &c.,	1,245 50
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9,404 75

\$12,582 25

From this sum deduct from Stock
and farming utensils on hand

last year,	\$1,924 53
Dry Goods,	856 60
W. I. Goods and Coal,	1,702 00
Produce,	336 00
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4,819 13

\$7,763 12

To this should be added for transportation of paupers to other institutions and out of State, .		\$716 35
Cash rec'd for barrels and casks,	\$35 62	
of inmates,	100 02	
for weighing,	3 93	
for reduction on bills,	40 46	
for pigs,	153 33	
for board of Jacob Trask,	25 25	
for board of Mr. Fallon,	4 00	
for four oxen,	369 04	
for calves,	17 00	
of Dr. Brown,	13 00	
for difference between oxen,	20 00	
Cash on hand,	<hr/>	\$781 65
		<hr/>
		\$9,261 12
Outstanding Debts,		199 65
		<hr/>
		\$9,061 47

The number of inmates in the house at the commencement of the year,	669
Admitted during the year,	2,481
Of this number there were rec'd	
from Boston,	1,095
Lowell,	426
Lawrence,	142
Salem,	87
Cambridge,	69
Charlestown,	50
Tewksbury,	30
Newburyport,	22
Chelsea,	22
Danvers,	17
Lynn,	61
Andover,	16
Watertown,	13
Holliston,	13
Haverhill,	11
Somerville,	10
Medford,	9

Groton,	8
Stowe,	6
Framingham,	6
Waltham,	6
Hopkinton,	6
Newton,	6
Ipswich, (Insane,)	6
Ware,	5
Reading,	5
Pepperell,	5
Greenfield,	5
Lee,	5
Manchester,	5
Methuen,	4
Beverly,	4
Malden,	4
Brighton,	4
South Danvers,	4
There were received from Amesbury, Shirley, Marblehead, Dracut, Marlborough, Concord, three each,	18
There were received from Chelmsford, Winchester and Sudbury, two each,	6
There were received from Pittsfield, Boxford, Ashland, Woburn, Enfield, Wilmington, Rockport, North Reading, South Reading, Billerica, Salisbury, Wenham, Stoneham, Burlington, West Cambridge, Huntington, Deerfield Northampton, Melrose, Adams and West Stockbridge, one each,	21
Received from State Almshouse, Monson,	109
Born in the house,	95
Transient,	90
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	2,481
Number of deaths in the house during the year,	280
Weekly average number	838
Present number in the house,	930
Of which there are Men,	277
Women,	294
Boys,	204
Girls,	155
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	930

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under ten years of age when admitted to the house,	480	339	819
Between 10 years and 20 years,	160	145	305
Between 20 years and 30 years,	225	295	520
Between 30 years and 40 years,	175	170	345
Between 40 years and 50 years,	150	75	225
Between 50 years and 60 years,	101	32	133
Between 60 years and 70 years,	65	20	85
Between 70 years and 80 years,	20	16	36
Between 80 years and 90 years,	5	6	11
Between 90 years and 100 years,	2	0	2
	1,383	1,098	2,481

Of the foregoing number, there were born

in Ireland,	1,129
England,	150
British Provinces,	118
Scotland,	40
Germany,	28
France,	7
West Indies,	6
Italy,	4
Western Islands,	3
Denmark,	2
Sweden,	2
East Indies, Genoa, Africa, Canary Islands, Holland, Norway, New South Wales, one each, Massachusetts, mostly of foreign parentage,	720
Maine,	50
New Hampshire,	65
Vermont,	31
Connecticut,	10
Rhode Island,	6
New York,	51
All other States,	19
Unknown,	33

2,481

The expenses of the houses for the year were;

\$56,685 99

From which deduct for stock, farming utensils, produce, coal, wood, dry goods, &c.	\$9,061 47
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Gives	\$47,624 52
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This amount divided by the average number sup- ported in the house, (838,) gives	56 83
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for each pauper for one year, or \$1,093 per
week, or \$15.12 for each person who has
received support in the house.

There have been but very few cases of severe punishment resorted to. Our mode of punishment is confinement in the cells, with no other food than bread and water.

The inmates have mostly conducted themselves well and have cheerfully attended to their work with considerable interest.

And now, gentlemen, in conclusion, allow me to express my sincere thanks to you for the uniform kindness and good feeling you have manifested toward me in the performance of my various duties, and should we be permitted to be officially connected the coming year, may it be as pleasant as the past.

Most respectfully submitted.

ISAAC H. MESERVE, *Superintendent.*

Dr.

Account with Superintendent—Continued.

Cr.

1855.		July,	By cash drawn from Special Appropriation of \$12,000 for the purposes of repairing, ventilating and erecting a separate building for cooking and laundry purposes,	
To cash paid for Labor,	\$1,627 94		do. do. do. do. do. do.	\$324 96
Lumber,	1,600 93		do. do. do. do. do. do.	2,181 01
Carpets, Chairs, &c.,	108 75		do. do. do. do. do. do.	2,782 43
Nails, Gutters, &c.,	486 02	August,	do. do. do. do. do. do.	1,501 54
Stone, Brick & Mason Work,	3,522 28	Sept.,	do. do. do. do. do. do.	3,243 20
Papering, Painting & Glazing,	974 99	October,	do. do. do. do. do. do.	
Slatting,	527 72	Nov.,	co. do. do. do. do. do. do.	
Transportation,	81 81			
Fixtures in Cook, Kitchen and Wash Rooms,	772 70			
Ventilators,	330 00			
	<u>\$10,033 14</u>			<u>\$10,033 14</u>

ISAAC H. MESERVE, *Superintendent.*

This certifies that we have examined the above accounts of Isaac H. Meserve with the Commonwealth, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

ELISHA HUNTINGTON,
STEPHEN MANSUR,
J. B. FARMER,

Inspectors.

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, December 27, 1855.



PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse at Tewksbury :—

GENTLEMEN :—In compliance with the By-Laws, I would respectfully submit the following, with the accompanying Tables, as a Report of the sanitary condition of the State Almshouse under your supervision, for the year ending November 30, 1855.

The facts relating to this subject are presented, in a condensed form, in the Tables,—No. 1 of which shows the number of cases of sickness entered in the Hospital books,—No. 2 the Births, and No. 3 the Deaths. Aside from these Tables but few remarks seem necessary. During the first half of the year we had much sickness among the children; the principal diseases were influenza, hooping cough, measles and scarlet fever. The original hospital rooms were soon filled with the more serious cases of sickness, and it became necessary to treat many of the milder of these diseases in the ordinary rooms of the house, consequently their names were omitted on the hospital record; thus making Table No. 1 show a less number of cases of sickness than really existed. This being found extremely inconvenient, the Superintendent furnished the large room originally designed for the chapel, and it has since been devoted to the use of the sick and convalescent children. He has also furnished a larger sore-eye ward, greatly enhancing the comfort of this class of patients. We have now six hospital wards, holding twenty beds each, and two containing ten beds each,—in all one hundred and forty beds.

The whole number of cases of sickness on record is thirteen hundred and eleven; the average has been not far from one hundred and thirty-five.

We have had no fatal endemic disease, unless the few cases of malignant scarlet fever might be classed as such. Much of

my time has been occupied in the lying-in-room. Of the one hundred and three mothers confined there, four have died in child-bed, two from lying-in-fever, one from puerperal mania, and one from diseases caused by previous intemperate habits.

It should be borne in mind, when considering the number of deaths, that many patients arrive at the almshouse in the last stages of fatal disease, that some of them have died the day of their arrival, and many within a week.

Much credit is due the Nurse for her faithful and unwearied efforts in behalf of the sick.

In closing, permit me to express my gratitude to you and the Superintendent for the more than deserved kindness with which you have ever treated me while in the discharge of my duties.

JONATHAN BROWN, *Physician*.

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, }
December 1, 1855. }

DISEASES.

Table showing the amount of sickness in the State Almshouse, in Tewksbury, for the year ending November 30, 1855, together with the Name or Class of the Disease, the number of cases which occurred during the first, and last six months of the year.

	Total.	1st 6 mos.	2d 6 mos.
Abscess,	26	20	6
Brain, Diseases of, and of the nervous centres,			
Hydrocephalus,	16	13	3
Delirium Tremens,	9	2	7
Palsy,	12	8	4
other diseases of nervous centres, .	29	14	15
Bowels, Diseases of,			
Cholera Morbus,	6	—	6
Diarrhœa and Cholera Infantum, .	56	11	45
Dysentery,	15	1	14
Debility,	94	46	48
Dropsy,	10	5	5
Erysipelas,	20	11	9
Eye, Disease of,	150	58	92
Fever, Typhoid,	91	51	40
Typhus,	4	4	—
Intermittent,	16	5	11
Bilious,	5	4	1
Ephemeral,	14	10	4
Heart, Disease of,	5	4	1
Lungs, Dis. of, and of the respiratory organs,			
Consumption,	79	36	43
Lung Fever,	15	15	—
Pleurisy,	9	4	5
Influenza,	51	47	4
Hooping Cough,	11	6	5
Other Diseases of these organs, .	16	11	5
Obstetrical cases,	103	39	64
Rheumatism,	20	6	14
Surgical Diseases,	36	26	10
Skin, Diseases of,			
Smallpox,	24	15	9
Scald Head,	13	4	9
Measles,	58	52	6
Scarlet Fever,	46	22	24
Other Diseases of the skin,	14	7	7
Scrofula,	21	16	5
Sore Mouth,	77	38	39
Syphilis,	51	20	31
Ulcer,	39	16	23
Other Diseases, (Miscellaneous,) . . .	50	20	30
Totals,	1,311	657	654

BIRTHS.

Tables showing the number of Births, Sex, Twins and Stillborn, in the State Almshouse, in Tewksbury, from December 1, 1854, to November 30, 1855, and the Birthplace of the Fathers and Mothers.

	Total.	Dec'r.	Jan'y.	Feb'y.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept'r.	October.	Nov'r.
Males,	53	2	4	3	3	6	2	5	7	8	3	6	4
Females,	52	5	5	6	2	1	1	7	7	7	1	8	2
Totals,	105	7	9	9	5	7	3	12	14	15	4	14	6
Twins,	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
Stillborn,	10	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	2	-	-	1	3
		Father.	Mother.	Father.	Mother.	Father.	Mother.	Father.	Mother.	Father.	Mother.	Father.	Mother.
Ireland,	62	73	4	5	4	7	3	7	9	10	3	9	10
America,	20	12	3	2	4	1	3	1	3	2	1	1	1
Canada,	6	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	2
England,	9	4	-	-	1	1	-	4	1	-	-	-	2

[illegible]

[illegible]

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

CONDITION AND CHARACTER OF THE INMATES.

THE condition and character of the people gathered at our State Institutions for the poor, of necessity, extraordinary exceptions excepted, precludes the idea of a report from the Chaplain, of any considerable interest. The inmates come from nearly all parts of the earth, and bear the well-known marks of almost all the nations on the globe. And they come to us with just such characters as they have formed under other governments and systems of religion. And their ideas, habits and practices are such as the circumstances of their early training have made them. It is not surprising, therefore, that the condition of many is painfully abject, and their characters lamentably defective.

ATTENDANCE ON RELIGIOUS SERVICE.

Public religious services are performed in the chapel of the Institution each Sabbath. And it is understood that it is the desire of all the officers and friends of the Institution, that as many of the inmates as are able, and are not otherwise employed, shall attend these services. It is pleasant therefore to report, that notwithstanding the superstitious notions in which a large portion of this people are entangled, and the immorality and crime with which others are burdened and by which they have become loathsome, and the infidelity of others, there is not, after all, such a disinclination to listen to the morality of the Bible and the doctrines of the gospel, as might at first be supposed. Generally, through the judicious management of our excellent Superintendent, and other influences, as many

attend chapel service as can conveniently be accommodated. Our average attendance, during the year, has been about three hundred and fifty, and occasionally our place of worship has been crowded with more than five hundred persons.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

In connection with the regular public religious services of the Institution, a Sabbath School has been sustained through the year, except at such times as the removal of the children to Monson has left us without scholars. All of our children who can read are required to attend this service, and it is a service not only of interest but of importance. The children love the Sabbath School, learn their lessons well, and recite them promptly.

INFLUENCE AND ULTIMATE RESULTS.

The influence and ultimate results of this moral and religious system cannot be accurately estimated. Indeed, it cannot be done in connection with any congregation or community. We may faithfully cultivate the field and expect to gather a harvest; but how large that harvest will be we cannot tell. This will depend very much upon the condition of the field we cultivate. In a congregation, therefore, such as is found in our State Almshouses, comparatively little can be expected. This being the case, it is gratifying to report that many listen with deep, feeling interest, and all give as respectful attention as is generally manifest in our religious assemblies, whether in the city or in the country. To some, whose peculiarly afflictive circumstances call for a large measure of sympathy from the Christian and philanthropist, the religious services of the Institution are a great blessing, and are highly prized. And to all, it is believed, they are of the utmost importance and prove highly useful. The people are more easily governed—preserve a more moral and correct exterior character—and if they ever leave this home of the poor, will prove themselves better citizens, better fathers, mothers, children and friends.

J. M. BURTT,
Chaplain.

